



LETTER

T O

A Gentleman in ENGLAND,

FROM



One in the PRINCE'S Army.

SIR,



IT would give a very sensible Mortification to the Gentlemen in this Kingdom, who have joined the Prince's Army, if they could suppose that any Person in *England* of your Integrity and good Sense, could give Credit to the unjust and calumnious Representations of their Intentions, which are printed in the daily Papers that come from your Kingdom, as if their Undertaking was to overthrow the Rights and Privileges of their Fellow-Subjects in *Britain* and *Ireland*, or to subvert the Protestant Religion in these Kingdoms.

That the present Tools of the Administration, who have fatten'd themselves on the Spoils of the Publick, should use their utmost Art to represent them in that Light to the People, and that the credulous Multitude should be alarm'd with the daily Reproaches which are sounded in their Ears, is nothing to be wondered at; but they cannot imagine that any Man of sober thinking can be carried away with such false and thread-bare Assertions. As their Views are no other than the restoring the injured Royal Family, and delivering their

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Country from the Hardships of a foreign Yoke, they see not upon what Ground they should be looked on as Enemies of the Constitution. Their Rightful and Native Sovereign has no Interest different from that of his People, nor will have any Temptation to support himself by standing Armies and venal Parliaments, by which the Liberty of the People has been insensibly undermined, and the Nation on the Point of being reduced to the Condition of a Province.

To say nothing of the Prince's amiable Qualities, you have his publick Declarations, in the strongest Terms, That he will preserve to his Subjects all their Rights and Privileges intire; and it is to second these his just Views that we follow him into your Kingdom, in order to rescue the three Nations (which make but one People) from the Hardships they have so long groaned under, and which are encreasing every Day; and we doubt not to find among you all true Lovers of their Country, ready to concur with us in so just and necessary an Enterprisc.

Judge, Sir, of the Necessity, as well as Justice of the Enterprisc, by considering the many Grievances and Corruptions so well known, and so often insisted on in a thousand Speeches and Pamphlets, to which no solid Answer has been made. The Words, *Popery* and *Slavery*, *French* and *Spanish Tyranny*, are indeed frequently employed to frighten unthinking People, and silence the most necessary Enquiries: But does any Man of Sense now believe that the ancient Royal Family will ever make an Attempt on the Religion and Liberties of their Subjects, when they must see so evidently that the Strength and Security of their Government depends wholly on the Affections of their People; and that no King can long sit easy on the *British* Throne, after the Hearts of his Subjects are alienated from him, by the arbitrary Measures he pursues? Does any Man of Sense believe that either *France* or *Spain* have the least Concern for extending the Communion of the Church of *Rome* among their Neighbours, though they are zealous to allow no Dissenters from it within their own Dominions, for the Security of their own Government? Will Charity oblige us to believe that the Family of *Hanover*, and the Ministers and Tools of their Government, have any other Meaning in the Words, *Protestant Religion*, *Popery* and *Slavery*, &c. but to excite the Zeal of weak Minds, and engage them in their Quarrels against every Enterprisc that may be devised for delivering the Nation out of the wretched State into which their Administration has thrown it? Or, will Charity oblige us to believe that the Right Rev. Bishop of Hereford

ford has the Concerns of Religion at Heart, when he profanes the Sacred Writ in so scandalous a Manner, in his Letter to the Clergy of his Diocese, where he addresses them in Behalf of the present Establishment with the Words of St. Paul, *To stand fast in the Liberty wherewith Christ hath made you free, &c.* But such Abuses of Scripture, and every thing sacred, is no more than might be expected from Men, who rise to Ecclesiastick Dignities by the most shameful Prostitution of their Votes and Service to the vilest Measures of a corrupt Ministry.

On the other Hand, what Answers are given to those loud Complaints which have long been made on the following Articles, *viz.* The Money sunk into the Electorate of *Hanover*, the exorbitant Taxes, the Decay of Trade, the Increase of the national Debts, the sacrificing the Lives of the Subjects in Quarrels the Nation has nothing to do with, the prostituting the Strength and Glory of *Britain* to the Interests of that pitiful Electorate, the Danger of a military Government, the Bribery in Elections, the Corruption of the Members after they are chosen; and, which is still worse, the general Corruption, which like an epidemical Evil, has been diffused among all Ranks, by the Practices and Example of a corrupted and corrupting Ministry?

Can any true Lover of his Country consider seriously the Justice and Importance of these Complaints, and not be convinced the Necessity is at least as strong, now as in 1688, to make a bold Attempt to save a sinking Nation from impending Ruin?

I would not wish, Sir, to follow the Example of our Enemies, who stick at nothing that may throw a Reproach on our Designs and our Conduct: To answer one Lie with another, might do well enough for the Populace: But as this Letter is only for you, and such as judge like you, my Labour will be so much the shorter.

I shall not need to tell you, that the Prince's Army is not composed of *wild and desperate Russians*, as a Right Reverend Archbishop has lately term'd them, but of some of the ancientest Nobility and Gentry, and others of equal Probity and Merit, however small their Fortunes may be, and which they did not chuse to augment at the Expence and Ruin of their Country. Along with these are the *Highland Clans*; a People indeed hardy and courageous to an extraordinary Degree, and at the same Time so much under Obedience to their Chieftains (Men generally of the greatest Humanity and Honour, and several of them of the politest Education *Europe* can afford) that there is perhaps less Violence and Rapine committed by them than in the most regular and best disciplin'd Troops.

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This being the State of our Army, and these the Considerations and the Motives that have induced the Gentlemen of the Northern Parts of the Isle to take up Arms, I will take the Liberty to affirm, that the Appearances for us are fair, and I have a particular Pleasure in thinking that my Word will pass with you as well as most Mens. There are Times in which a Man must put some Value upon himself, and I crave the Honour of being believed by you in any Thing I assert: You see in arguing a little with your Right Reverend Divines, I have not answered *Railing with Railing*. Had I call'd the *English* Clergy, *The Sons of Sloth and Luxury*, as they have call'd us *The Sons of Rapine and Violence*, it would have sound-ed well enough, but I should think it very unjust to involve a whole Society of Men, from the Archbishop of *Canterbury*, down to the meanest Curate, in one general Accusation. Among the Clergy there are worthy Men, and these are safe from any Aspersions that must justly fall on others of contrary Dispositions and Practices.

In fine, Sir, we look upon *Englishmen* as our Brethren, and shall ever esteem those among them who are of Honour and Probity. Let them not therefore be afraid of us, since our Intentions will ever be united with theirs in rescuing the Country from a foreign Yoke, and redressing the Grievances which the Inhabitants in general have suffered.

I have omitted an Infinity of Things that might have been brought to justify our Undertaking, by shewing the Hardships the Royal Family has undergone (together with the Country) in such a long Tract of Years, the Barbarity of setting a Price on the King's Head and his Son's; but I was unwilling to insist long on such Things as must be shocking to any Person of common Humanity, especially one who has so great an Abhorrence of all Injustice and Cruelty.

I might have enlarged on the Qualifications of the Prince. I wish all *England* could see him. He has one Quality which every Heroe has not, his Readiness to yield to good Advice. I might have mention'd the Boldness of his Attempt in landing in the *Highlands* with only six or seven Attendants: The surprizing Success he has had since that Time, could have swell'd my Letter to a large Size. I hope we shall soon meet in *England*, and I am ever,



SIR,

Your, &c.